

# EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

## **Patent Abstracts of Japan**

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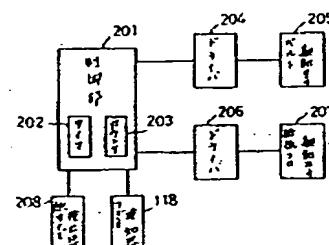
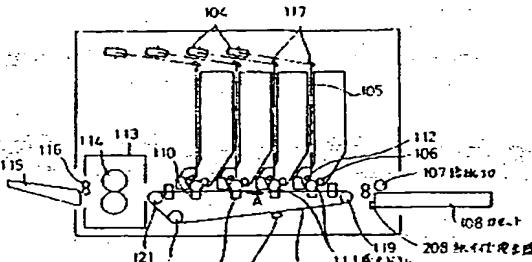
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APPLICANT : CANON INC.

INVENTOR : SATO YUKIO

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**TITLE** : : : SHEET MATERIAL FEEDER



**ABSTRACT :** PURPOSE: To feed a transfer sheet not to be put on a joint of a belt by providing means for detecting the position of the joint of the belt and means for adjusting the position of the joint of the stopped belt to a home position.

**CONSTITUTION:** A transfer sheet is fed from a cassette 108 on a transport belt by a paper feed roller 107, and a transport belt 109 is driven in the direction of an arrow A, thereby to feed the transfer sheet along four photosensitive drums 111. During driving of the transport belt 109, a joint of the transport belt 109 passes the detecting position of a joint detector 118, and the joint is detected. A control portion 201 counts the time elapsed after detecting the joint through a timer 202 and a counter 203, and the present position of the joint is detected from the count value. After the completion of printing, and when a power is applied to a printer or the printer is reset, according to the result of detecting the joint position, the control portion 201 controls the drive of a transport belt 109 to adjust the position of the joint to its home position, and the transport belt 109 is stopped.

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